

## Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) Surgical Site Infections (SSI)

**Table 10: Selected Summary Report: “SSI – Percent (%) of positive cultures with MRSA Isolated” for procedures performed from 12/1/08 through 11/30/09.**

Many people ask about MRSA as a cause of surgical site infections. This summary includes only infections with a positive culture and the percentage of those positive cultures that were MRSA positive. The summary does not include the number of infections with negative cultures or those where a culture was not performed.

**While MRSA is a significant cause of SSI, it is important to use prevention strategies that focus on preventing all infections and not just those caused by one organism. Where positive surgical site cultures were reported, the percent of MRSA isolates by procedure ranged from about 10% in gallbladder SSIs to a high of 40% in hip replacement SSIs.**

Reports for CABG, colon and gallbladder surgery with clips, spinal fusion and hip and knee replacements with implants are preliminary. These surgeries must be followed for one year and final data will not be available until early in 2011. However, while some infections in surgical procedures with implants may occur as long as one year after surgery, most occur within the first 30 days after the procedure.

<b>Table 10: Surgical Site Infections: % of positive cultures with MRSA isolated</b> ( Includes only those infections with a positive culture)
<b>SSI Procedures performed from 12/1/08 - 11/30/09</b>

<b>Type of Surgery</b>	<b>Number of Infections with Positive Cultures</b>	<b>Number of MRSA Positive Cultures:</b>	<b>% MRSA Positive</b>
CABG	76	13	17.1
Colon Surgery	46	9	19.5
Gallbladder	31	3	9.7
Hip Replacement	94	37	39.4
Knee Replacement	61	16	26.2
Abdominal Hysterectomy	55	7	12.7
Vaginal Hysterectomy	10	0	0
Spinal Fusion	39	9	23.1

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